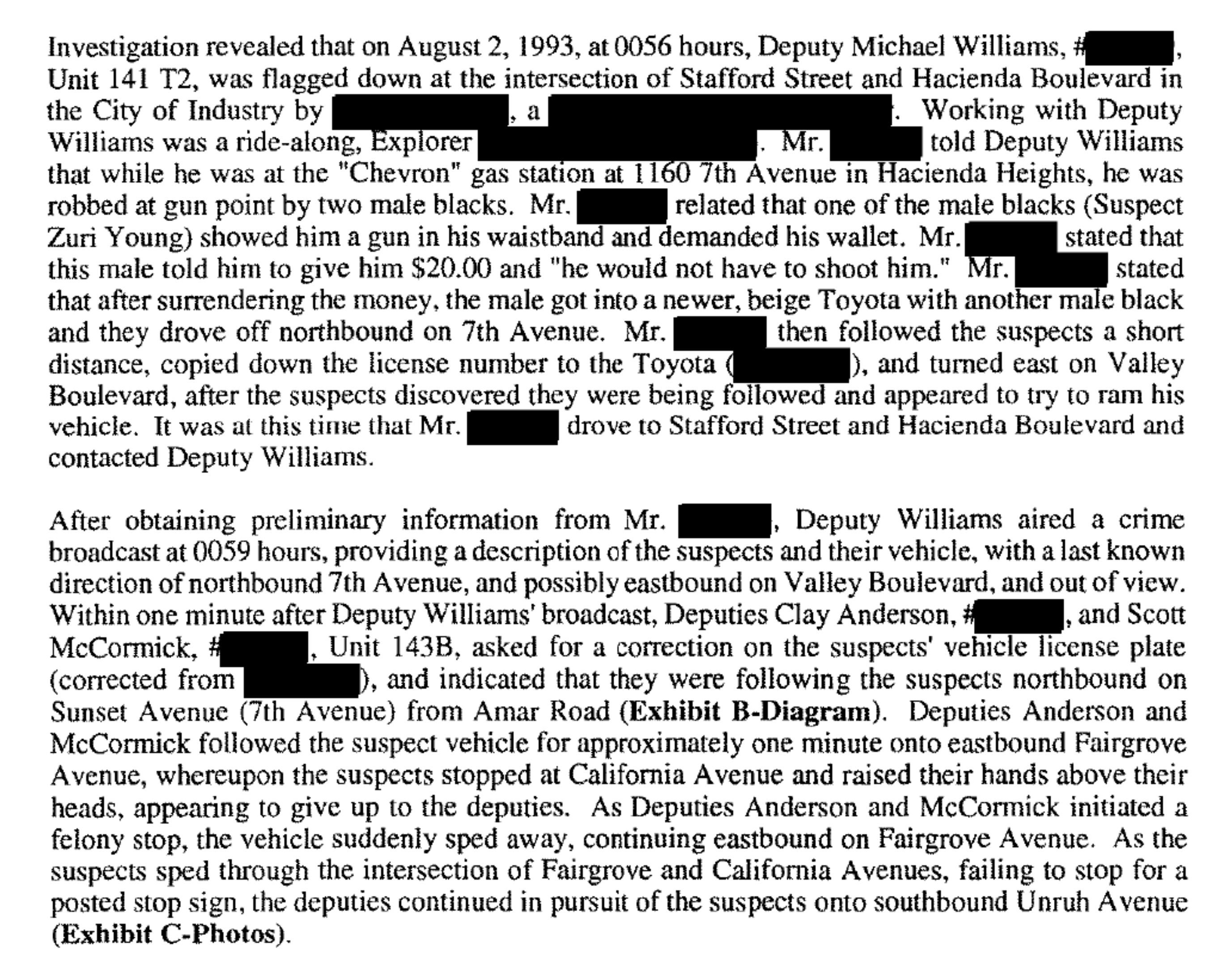
INVESTIGATIVE SUMMARY

IAB FILE #005819

The summary of this incident is based upon the reports, memos, teletypes and taped interviews contained in this packet. It also contains information verbally relayed to the Internal Affairs Bureau investigators. This summary is preliminary and does not contain an interview of the deputies involved in the incident by the Internal Affairs Bureau investigators. Their accounts of this incident were obtained verbally from supervisors and crime reports describing the incident **(Exhibit A-Reports)**.



Investigation revealed that on August 2, 1993, at 0056 hours, Deputy Michael Williams, #[redacted], Unit 141 T2, was flagged down at the intersection of Stafford Street and Hacienda Boulevard in the City of Industry by [redacted], a [redacted]. Working with Deputy Williams was a ride-along, Explorer [redacted]. Mr. [redacted] told Deputy Williams that while he was at the "Chevron" gas station at 1160 7th Avenue in Hacienda Heights, he was robbed at gun point by two male blacks. Mr. [redacted] related that one of the male blacks (Suspect Zuri Young) showed him a gun in his waistband and demanded his wallet. Mr. [redacted] stated that this male told him to give him $20.00 and "he would not have to shoot him." Mr. [redacted] stated that after surrendering the money, the male got into a newer, beige Toyota with another male black and they drove off northbound on 7th Avenue. Mr. [redacted] then followed the suspects a short distance, copied down the license number to the Toyota ([redacted]), and turned east on Valley Boulevard, after the suspects discovered they were being followed and appeared to try to ram his vehicle. It was at this time that Mr. [redacted] drove to Stafford Street and Hacienda Boulevard and contacted Deputy Williams.

After obtaining preliminary information from Mr. [redacted], Deputy Williams aired a crime broadcast at 0059 hours, providing a description of the suspects and their vehicle, with a last known direction of northbound 7th Avenue, and possibly eastbound on Valley Boulevard, and out of view. Within one minute after Deputy Williams' broadcast, Deputies Clay Anderson, #[redacted], and Scott McCormick, #[redacted], Unit 143B, asked for a correction on the suspects' vehicle license plate (corrected from [redacted]), and indicated that they were following the suspects northbound on Sunset Avenue (7th Avenue) from Amar Road **(Exhibit B-Diagram)**. Deputies Anderson and McCormick followed the suspect vehicle for approximately one minute onto eastbound Fairgrove Avenue, whereupon the suspects stopped at California Avenue and raised their hands above their heads, appearing to give up to the deputies. As Deputies Anderson and McCormick initiated a felony stop, the vehicle suddenly sped away, continuing eastbound on Fairgrove Avenue. As the suspects sped through the intersection of Fairgrove and California Avenues, failing to stop for a posted stop sign, the deputies continued in pursuit of the suspects onto southbound Unruh Avenue **(Exhibit C-Photos)**.

IAB Note: Investigation later revealed that the Toyota Camry was stolen at gun point by the suspects the previous evening (8/1/93) at 2330 hours in the City of Los Angeles **(Exhibit D-Reports)**. The suspects' weapon in both robberies was a .357 revolver, which was recovered from the stolen Toyota at the end of the pursuit.

Approximately 150 yards south of Fairgrove Avenue on Unruh Avenue, Suspect Young, sitting in the passenger seat, fired 3-4 rounds at Unit 143B. Both Deputies Anderson and McCormick returned fire with their duty weapons and each fired 4-5 rounds. The suspects fired an additional 2-3 rounds at the deputies, who were approximately 15-20 feet behind the suspects. Deputy McCormick fired 3-4 rounds at the suspects and Deputy Anderson returned fire with 7-8 rounds. These shots occurred at Amar Road. At the intersection of Unruh Avenue and Temple Avenue, Deputy Anderson fired three rounds from a shotgun, as the suspects continued to fire at the deputies. In a tape recording of the entire pursuit, Deputy Anderson reports the initial shots fired by the suspects and the return fire by both him and Deputy McCormick, and the additional shots fired by the suspects throughout the pursuit. Each deputy reported firing 15 rounds each from their Berettas, and Deputy Anderson reported firing three rounds from the shotgun near the end of the pursuit, southbound Unruh Avenue, just south of Temple Avenue.

IAB Note: Both deputies are right handed. Deputy Anderson fired from the front passenger window and Deputy McCormick fired his weapon with his left hand as he drove with his right hand. A supplemental report submitted by Deputy Joseph Guarino, #[redacted], indicated that later that morning he recovered nine (9) 9mm shell casings from the 900 block of Unruh Avenue. These casings were spread over an area between 60 feet and 250 feet north of the north curb line of Amar Road. Deputy Guarino recovered these casings after responding to a citizen's report that her vehicle had been damaged by gunfire. The vehicle had been parked, facing southbound at the 900 block of Unruh Avenue, and sustained damage to the trunk lid and the rear window **(Exhibit E-Report/Photos)**.

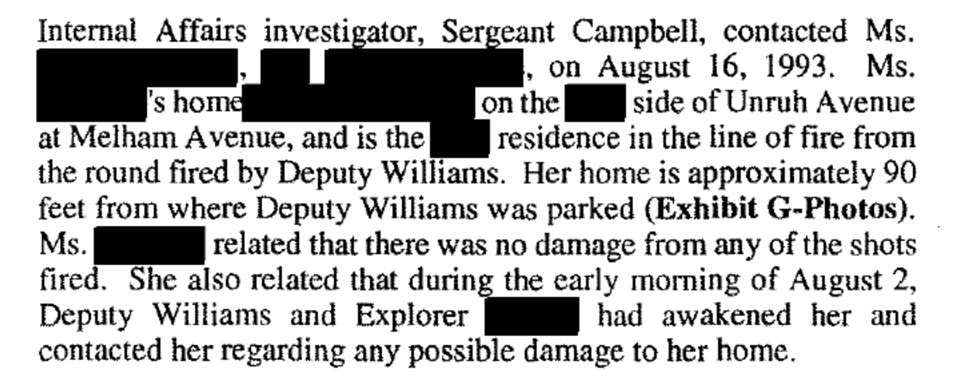
It should also be noted that Unruh Avenue from Fairgrove Avenue to where the pursuit ended south of Nelson Avenue, is a wide street, with approximately 80 feet separating structures on either side.

In a written supplemental report and in his verbal report to his field supervisor, Sergeant John Carey, #[redacted], Deputy Williams reported that after putting out his original broadcast and hearing that Unit 143B was being fired upon by the suspects, he drove to northbound Unruh Avenue to give assistance as needed. Deputy Williams stated to Sergeant Carey that as he approached Melham Avenue, he realized that the pursuit was very close, headed his way southbound on Unruh Avenue. He stated that he chose to take a defensive action at that point, feeling that the suspects were about to arrive at his location. He stated he parked his vehicle to the right side of the roadway, grabbed the shotgun and chambered in a round, making it ready for firing as a defensive weapon. He stated he yelled for Explorer [redacted] to duck down inside the vehicle. He stated that as the suspects reached his position, he saw two muzzle flashes coming from the interior of the vehicle which appeared to be directed at his unit. He stated he heard two gunshots right after the flashes. He stated he fired one shotgun round at the suspect vehicle, first determining that there was no one in the background on the other side of the street.

In a memo written on August 2, 1993 **(Exhibit F-Memo)**, and in an interview with Internal Affairs investigators on the same day, Explorer [redacted] confirmed Deputy Williams' contact with the pursuit, stating that when they parked on Unruh Avenue as the pursuit approached, they still had their red lights activated. She stated that when it appeared the pursuit was continuing toward them, Deputy Williams directed her to hand him the shotgun, but because she had ducked down inside

the vehicle, she did not see muzzle flashes coming from the suspect vehicle, but did hear two shots, and then heard Deputy Williams fire the shotgun.


IAB Note: Deputy Dennis Miller, #[redacted], Industry Station Detective Bureau, indicated it appeared that the window frame and driver's side windshield of the suspect vehicle was hit by pellets from the shotgun round fired by Deputy Williams **(Exhibit G-Photos)**.


Internal Affairs investigator, Sergeant Campbell, contacted Ms. [redacted], [redacted], on August 16, 1993. Ms. [redacted]'s home [redacted] on the [redacted] side of Unruh Avenue at Melham Avenue, and is the [redacted] residence in the line of fire from the round fired by Deputy Williams. Her home is approximately 90 feet from where Deputy Williams was parked **(Exhibit G-Photos)**. Ms. [redacted] related that there was no damage from any of the shots fired. She also related that during the early morning of August 2, Deputy Williams and Explorer [redacted] had awakened her and contacted her regarding any possible damage to her home.

After two minutes and a two mile pursuit, the suspects reached the cul-de-sac at the end of Unruh Avenue (just south of Stafford Street), turned west into the driveway of VSI Screw Corporation, 135 Unruh Avenue, and crashed through a closed and locked chain link fence and gate. The suspects continued west through the property, crashed through two additional chain link gates, circled the property, and stopped in the parking lot, just short of leaving the property onto Unruh Avenue **(Exhibit H-Photos)**. Suspect Zuri Young, M/B-23, exited the vehicle from the passenger side and ran southbound on Unruh Avenue. Suspect Travis Abner, M/B-23, exited the driver's door and ran northbound on Unruh Avenue, headed for a field on the west side of the street. In a traffic collision report **(Exhibit I-Report/Photos)**, written by Deputy A. Sims, [redacted], and in a supplemental report written by Deputy Anderson, Deputy McCormick related that as Suspect Abner began to run northbound on Unruh Avenue after initially running eastbound from the parking lot, he turned his vehicle northbound in an attempt to block Suspect Abner's avenue of escape. He stated that midway through this turn from eastbound to northbound, he collided with a utility pole just off the street, relating that a company sign on the property blocked his view and he did not see the pole as he turned. Deputy McCormick related that he chose to chase Suspect Abner with his vehicle, believing that the suspect could be armed and was now a danger to the community as he was running north toward nearby residences.

IAB Note: Found on the passenger side floorboard of the now abandoned Toyota Camry was the suspects' gun, a Rossi .357, 6" revolver **(Exhibit J-Photos)**. No other weapon was found at the scene, even though a witness at [redacted] reported seeing Suspect Young carrying a shotgun or rifle as he climbed over the fence onto the property. A thorough search for a second weapon met with negative results.

After crashing their vehicle, Deputy McCormick fired four rounds at Suspect Abner as he continued to run northbound on Unruh Avenue through a field, toward an abandoned industrial yard at the corner at Nelson Avenue. Deputy Anderson suffered an acute contusion to his left testicle from the butt of his shotgun when Deputy McCormick crashed into the utility pole. Deputy

McCormick suffered acute cervical strain and an abrasion to his scalp when he hit his head on an unknown object near the front dashboard when they crashed. Both deputies were transported to the Queen of the Valley Hospital in West Covina and treated by Dr. Owashi **(Exhibit K-Reports)**. Light duty for both deputies was prescribed.

While still at the crash location, Deputy Anderson quickly set up a containment using all available Industry Station units. Within ten minutes Air 21 (Deputies Scott Osborne, #[redacted] and Michael Griffin, #[redacted]), 240 K9-2, Deputy Ken Lawrence, #[redacted], 240 K9-3, Deputy Bryan Jennings, #[redacted], and 240 K9-4, Deputy Ernest Burwell, #[redacted], responded to the command post at Unruh Avenue and Stafford Street. Sergeant William Thompson, #[redacted], Special Enforcement Bureau, also responded to supervise the search for the suspects by the canine units. Prior to deploying canine units for the search, Air 21 attempted to locate any suspects, utilizing the FLIR system, but Deputy Griffin indicated that he could not see any heat indications or see any people. Several pre-recorded canine announcements were made by Deputy Jennings via the helicopter p.a. system and all the containment units' p.a. systems from Deputy Jennings' recorder.

IAB Note: These announcements, made on "A tac" during the containment, were recorded by SRC and a tape recorded cassette was sent to Sergeant Campbell. This cassette is to be retained at IAB headquarters.

After waiting five minutes to allow the suspects time to surrender and after receiving no response, Deputy Burwell began a foot search south on Unruh Avenue with his dog, "Arco", to search for Suspect Young. He was assisted by Deputy Lawrence and Deputy Douglas Jensen, #[redacted], Industry Unit 144A. Deputy Jennings and his dog, "Marko", were deployed northbound on Unruh Avenue to search for Suspect Abner. Deputy Jennings was assisted by Deputy Ramon Ulloa, #[redacted], Industry Unit 144A.

In a supplemental report **(Exhibit M-SEB Reports)**, Deputy Burwell indicated that as they approached the south end of VSI Screw Corporation, "Arco" showed an interest near a large machine just outside a loading dock at the location. He stated he heard a male say something and then saw Suspect Young inside the framework of a fan and blower unit **(Exhibit L-Photos)**. He stated the suspect was laying on top of "Arco" and had the dog in a head lock, which prevented him from recalling "Arco" back to him. Deputy Burwell indicated that he called out to Suspect Young to crawl out of his position with his hands out in front of him, since he was unaware if Suspect Young still had a gun in his possession. Deputy Burwell related that after some resistance Suspect Young complied with his instructions, and as soon as he was prone and there were no signs of a weapon, he recalled "Arco" to him. At that point Suspect Young was handcuffed by Deputy Jensen, without further incident, and was then treated by fire department paramedics and transported to Queen of the Valley Hospital for examination and treatment for dog bites to his left tricep and left finger. Deputy Burwell also noted that Suspect Young sustained several small scratches on his back and one on his right knee.

In an interview with Sergeant Campbell of the Internal Affairs Bureau, Deputy Jensen related that shortly after the K-9 announcements were made in the area of VSI Screw Corporation, and after "Arco" was allowed to search the area, he heard the suspect scream unintelligibly. He stated that he, Deputy Burwell and Deputy Lawrence ran to where the suspect was attempting to hide in the framework of a large machine, and saw Suspect Young struggling with the dog. He stated that Suspect Young appeared to be trying to get back further into the framework of the machine as he

kicked at the dog. Deputy Jensen stated that Deputy Burwell ordered Suspect Young to stop fighting with the dog and to exit, showing his hands to them, but the suspect refused and then attempted to choke "Arco" in a head lock. He stated he could not see "Arco" biting the suspect, as all he could see were the rear body and back of the dog's head. He stated Suspect Young continued to refuse to exit and continued to kick and struggle with "Arco." Deputy Jensen stated he saw "Arco" bite Suspect Young once on the arm when the suspect rushed out from under the unit with his hands extended. He stated Deputy Burwell then physically grabbed "Arco" and pulled him away from the suspect. Deputy Jensen stated he felt Deputy Burwell did not feel comfortable in calling off "Arco" until he was assured that Suspect Young did not have a gun in or near his hands.

Deputy Jensen related that he escorted Suspect Young to the paramedics who had arrived, and he had to cut the suspect's shirt off so he could be examined at the scene. He stated he noticed only minor bites to the suspect's hand and forearms. Deputy Jensen stated this did not surprise him because Deputy Burwell indicated to him that "Arco" only had a couple of teeth and could not have caused much damage in his struggle with the suspect.

In a supplemental report **(Exhibit M-SEB Reports)**, Deputy Bryan Jennings (240 K9-3), related that he deployed his dog, "Marko", north on Unruh Avenue to search for the second suspect (Travis Abner) in an abandoned industrial yard. He related that within a short period of time "Marko" began barking at the closed door of a restroom, and the suspect was found hiding in that restroom. He indicated that the suspect was ordered out of the restroom, complied with that order, and was then handcuffed without incident. This was confirmed by Deputy Ramon Ulloa (Industry Unit 144A), who assisted in the search and handcuffed the suspect. In a supplemental report, Deputy Ulloa also reported recovering several pieces of property from the restroom which had been taken from a victim in a previous robbery when the Toyota Camry was stolen at gun point in LAPD's area **(Exhibit D-Reports)**.

At approximately 0425 hours, Lieutenant Ron Tardiff, and Sergeants Katie Campbell and Ken Leffler, of the Internal Affairs Bureau, participated in interviews with both Suspects Travis Abner and Zuri Young. Sergeant Thompson, Special Enforcement Bureau, conducted the interview **(Exhibit M-SEB Reports)**, with input from those present. Suspect Abner denied firing shots at the deputies, relating that he was asleep in the back seat of the Toyota when he was awakened suddenly by gun shots. He would only say that the deputies shot at the vehicle he was in first, but would not respond to questioning as to his participation as the driver of the vehicle and possible shooter in the pursuit. Suspect Abner admitted running from Deputies Anderson and McCormick and hiding in the abandoned industrial yard. He related further that he was eventually (15-20 minutes later) discovered by the canine and was arrested after responding to the deputies' orders to surrender. He stated he received no dog bites or any other injuries and was handcuffed without incident at that time. He did point out minor injuries to his right index finger, left inner palm near his index finger, and his left upper wrist near the base of his thumb.

IAB Note: Sergeants Campbell and Leffler examined Suspect Abner's wounds, which appeared to be small puncture wounds, extremely minor in nature **(Exhibit N-Photos).** A look at the chain link fence which surrounds the industrial yard where Suspect Abner gained access into the yard, revealed that entire area is topped with strands of barbed wire, and he could not have entered the yard without having to grab onto that wire to get over the fence. Blood was found on the doorknob to the door which led to the restroom where Suspect

Abner was hiding, indicating that he sustained his injuries prior to being found by the canine **(Exhibit N-Photos)**.

Suspect Zuri Young related that after being followed by two deputies in a marked patrol unit, he and the driver of the vehicle stopped when they saw the deputies flash their headlights at them, but that the driver (who he refused to identify at this time) drove off and the deputies pursued them. He stated it was the deputies who fired 6-8 times at them first, denying that he or the driver fired any shots at the deputies. He related that after crashing through several fences in to a business parking lot, he ran south and heard shots being fired as he ran. He stated he then climbed over a chain link fence and hid in the blower unit **(Exhibit L-Photos)**.

IAB Note: Deputy [redacted], #[redacted], related in a supplemental report **(Exhibit A-Reports)** that he took Suspect Young to Queen of the Valley Hospital to be examined for dog bites. Deputy [redacted] related that Suspect Young, who identified himself to hospital personnel as "Marcus Butler" admitted that he had earlier (7/29/93) been involved in an incident with LAPD officers and escaped after trying to shoot them during a traffic stop. Suspect Young also admitted to Deputy [redacted] that he had robbed an off duty firefighter (Victim [redacted]) and admitted shooting at Deputies Anderson and McCormick, indicating that he would have done anything to get away, even if he had to kill the deputies.

During his interview with Internal Affairs investigators, Suspect Young related that he had been hiding in the framework of the blower unit for approximately 20-30 minutes, when he felt something biting at his ankle. He stated he started to kick at the canine, but the dog then started biting at his arm. He related he could hear the deputies yelling at him, but he could not understand what they were saying to him. He stated he complied with the deputies' instructions to come out of the blower unit with his hands showing, but that the dog dragged him out "face down." He stated the dog then started biting his arms and was shortly thereafter called off by one of the deputies. He stated he was then handcuffed without further incident and treated by paramedics.

Suspect Young was transported to Queen of the Valley Hospital and examined by Dr. Norman Owashi. Hospital records indicate that Suspect Young suffered superficial lacerations to his right forearm and slight puncture wounds to the radial side of his left elbow, and two lacerations to his forearm as well. Dr. Owashi's report also indicates that Suspect Young sustained minor bites and complained of decreased sensation to the third, fourth and fifth fingers of his left hand. Suspect Young's wounds were cleansed and dressed and he was transported to USC Medical Center after being okayed for booking.

IAB Note: When Suspect Young was interviewed by the Internal Affairs investigators, he had already been treated by Dr. Owashi, and his wounds had been bandaged **(Exhibit O-Photos)**, therefore a thorough inspection could not be made of the actual wounds. The appearance of the minor scrapes and cuts on Suspect Young's back and chest area indicated they could have been made when Suspect Young attempted to hide in the blower unit. There were various bolts and sharp corners in the small, contained area where Suspect

Young admitted he pushed himself into in an attempt to hide and avoid the canine.

Both Suspects Young and Abner deny hearing any recorded announcements prior to the deployment of the dogs. This is contradicted by witnesses living on Nelson Avenue and by a witness who was working that night at [redacted], who all related that they heard repeated, recorded announcements. (These witnesses are included in Sergeant Thompson's Canine Deployment-Supervisor's Report-**Exhibit M-SEB Reports**). It is also contradicted by a tape recording copied by SRC on "A tac" on Industry Station's frequency, which clearly recorded the admonishment being made on three separate occasions.

Dr. Owashi was interviewed by Sergeant Campbell at the Queen of the Valley Hospital in West Covina on August 23, 1993, regarding Suspect Young's wounds. Dr. Owashi stated that he considered Suspect Young's bite wounds minor in nature and consistent with his story of his encounter with the dog **(Exhibit P-Records)**. Dr. Owashi also stated that Suspect Young's report of loss of feeling in the fingers of his left hand are not consistent with the wounds to his left arm. He expressed the opinion that Suspect Young did not suffer any permanent nerve damage to his hand, as that kind of damage would only occur if he had suffered more severe damage to the more vital nerves located near his left elbow. Dr. Owashi related that even though he did not think it necessary, he ordered that x-rays be taken once Suspect Young was transported to USC Medical Center, acting only on complaints of numbness by Suspect Young. He added that the bite to the suspect's left ankle was minor and required no further treatment. Jail medical records indicate that Suspect Young required no further treatment, with the exception of cleansing, for his injuries and that he suffered no nerve damage to his hand.

Dr. Owashi was questioned as to if any of the lacerations on Suspect Young's forearms could have been caused by barbed wire as he climbed over a chain link fence, as opposed to dog bites as alleged by Suspect Young. Dr. Owashi stated the wounds could have been caused by the barbed wire, but could have also been caused if the suspect's arm was caught by a glancing bite as he struggled with the dog. This is somewhat consistent with Deputy Jensen's statements regarding the circumstances of Suspect Young's surrender and Deputy Burwell's statement to him that "Arco" only had two teeth and would not have rendered severe damage in his bites.

Detective Dennis Miller, Industry Station, was contacted by Sergeant Campbell on August 16, 1993. Deputy Miller related that evidence gathered indicated that both Suspects Young and Abner fired the Rossi .357 revolver at the pursuing deputies. He explained that .357 rounds were found strewn throughout the car and in Suspect Abner's possession when he was arrested. He also stated that in a recent interview with Suspect Young, he indicated that he and Suspect Abner tossed the gun back and forth to each other and exchanged shots with the deputies. Deputy Miller stated that it was most likely Suspect Abner, the driver, who shot twice at Deputy Williams as he was parked on Unruh Avenue.

Detective Miller indicated that none of the suspects' rounds hit the radio car, but Deputy McCormick did accidentally shoot out the spotlight on the driver's side of the patrol vehicle as he shot back at the suspects. Detective Miller indicated that the suspect vehicle was hit by five 9mm rounds from the deputies' guns, which hit the left side of the trunk, the right rear passenger and wing windows, the right quarter panel and the top rim of the right rear passenger door. Detective Miller indicated that because of the extensive damage to the body of the vehicle, which occurred when the suspects crashed through three chain link fences at VSI Screw Corporation, he was

unable to determine if additional rounds, fired by the deputies, hit the vehicle **(Exhibit Q-Photos)**. He also indicated that the driver's side of the front windshield sustained damage, which appeared to be from shotgun pellets, possibly from the one shotgun round fired by Deputy Williams as the suspects passed his vehicle.

Detective Miller related that the suspects were recently held to answer at Rio Hondo Court for 211 P.C., Robbery, and 187(A) P.C., Attempt Murder on a Police Officer, with an additional charge of 2800 C.V.C., Felony Evading. [redacted]